

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

**Please amend the specification as follows:**

**Please replace the paragraph no. [0005] with the following amended paragraph:**

In distributed automation systems, e.g., in the field of drive technology, certain data must arrive at certain subscribers at certain times and be processed by the recipients. Therein, the data are referred to as real-time critical data or real-time critical data traffic because a delayed arrival of the data at the destination leads to undesirable results at the subscriber. This is in contrast to non-real-time critical data communication, for example Internet-based or intranet-based data communication. According to the IEC 61491, EN61491 SERCOS interface – Short Technical Description ([http://www.sercos.de/pdf/sercos\\_kurzbeschreibung\\_de\\_0202.pdf](http://www.sercos.de/pdf/sercos_kurzbeschreibung_de_0202.pdf)), successful real-time critical data traffic of the above-mentioned type is ensured in distributed automation systems.

**Please replace the paragraph no. [0052] with the following amended paragraph:**

Step 204 of the hardware process 156 checks whether the command register is writable. If not, the sequence ends in step ~~206~~221. In this case, the application has to restart the software process 154 with step 200.

**Please replace the paragraph no. [0055] with the following amended paragraph:**

Write access to the command register is then enabled again in step 212, and the sequence of the hardware process 156 ends with step ~~206~~221.

**Between paragraphs [0057] and [0058], please insert the following paragraph:**

The method set forth above can be embodied in a computer-readable medium, such as a digital storage medium, to enable a processor to perform the operations.

**Please delete the present Abstract of the Disclosure.**

**Please add the following new Abstract of the Disclosure:**

A method and a subscriber-(100) of a data network-(102) including a command unit-(116) for accessing the data network-(102); an operating assembly for operating a plurality of applications-(104, 106, 108, ...) that access a data bus-(110) of the subscriber-(100); a first writer for a first one of the applications to write at least one command structure-(118) into an address space of a memory of the subscriber-(100) via the data bus-(110); a second writer for the first application to write a pointer-(124) to the address space into an input register-(126) of the command unit-(116) via the data bus-(110); an enabling assembly for enabling the command unit-(116) to access the address space via the data bus-(110) and to process the command structure-(118); and a third writer for writing the pointer-(124) into an output register-(136, 130) that is assigned to the first application, once the subscriber-(100) has processed the command structure-(118).